Aids prevalence amongst adults and children

1884. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been made to find out prevalance of AIDS amongst adults and HIV positive amongst children;

(b) if so, the results thereof and efforts (preventive and remedial) being made;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued to State Governments to adopt a specific line of action for tackling the deadly disease; and

(d) whether any separate allocations have been made in the past and what are the further plans adequately to meet this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMIALAI): (a) No specific study has been undertaken, but reported AIDS cases among adults and children below 14 years up to April, 1998 are 5209.

(b) No study has been conducted and, as such, the question of result does not arise. The following efforts are being made to check the spread of disease—

—strengthening of State AIDS Cell,

—awareness camping through various media units like electronic, press, inter-personal communication, folk media and other area specific approach,

—strengthening of STD Climics,

—modernisation of Blood Banks and Universal screening of Blood Donrs.

(c) Guidelines have been issued to all State Governments and Union Territories to adopt specific line of action for tackling the disease which forms the strategy of the National AIDS Control Programme.

(d) Yes, Sir. Allocation for the control of IV/AIDS has been made in the past. In future, depending on the strategic plan of implementation submitted by each State, allocation will be made.

Pre-Medical test for Admission to Medical Colleges

1885. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has held that a Pre-Medical Test should be held in all the States for admission to medical colleges;

(b) if so, what are the details of the said judgement;

(c) if not, what is the present position in the country vis-a-vis the PMT; and

(d) what is the response of the Government of India to the demand of the students in Maharashtra for not imposing a PMT on them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court of India in W.P. No. 607 of 1992 Unni Krishnan J.P. Vs State of Andhra Pradesh held that atlest, 50% of the Seats in every private professional College shall be filled by the nominees of the Government or University, as the case may be, which will be called 'Free Seats'. These Students shall be selected on the basis of merit, determined on the basis of a Common Entrance Examination, where it is held or in the absence of an enterence examination, by such criteria as may be determined by the competent authority or the appropriate authority, as the case may be. It is, however, desirable and appropriate, to have a Common Entrance Exam for regulating admissions to these Colleges/Institutions, as is done in the State of Andhra Pradesh. In view